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WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

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U.S. Department of Agriculture

FOR RELEASE WHEN APPROVED BY
LAND-GRANT COLLEGE PRESIDENT
WHO RECEIVES THE LETTER

No. 1-40

SECRETARY WALLACE WRITES
_____ PRESIDENT
(Institution)
ABOUT CONSERVATION PLANS

An explanation of greater efforts by the Department of Agriculture to achieve conservation of land, water, and human resources and to attain better coordination with State efforts along that line was contained in a letter from Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace received here _____ by _____, President of
(Date) (Name)
the _____.
(Institution)

The Secretary pointed to a recent announcement of a number of changes that have been made in the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Farm Security Administration, Soil Conservation Service, and other Department agencies to achieve greater conservation, and indicated that "additional steps...will be taken a little later on."

Commenting on the letter, President _____ said:
(Name)
"_____."
(Comments of college president)

# # #

(Copy of the Secretary's letter is attached.)

January 4, 1940.

9-40

(Copy of letter sent to the Presidents of Land-Grant Colleges.)

January 4, 1940.

At the recent annual meeting of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges, I discussed the need for additional efforts to achieve conservation of our land, water, and human resources. I outlined the serious nature of the problem, pointed out the necessity for undertaking promptly additional remedial measures, and indicated in a general way some of the program changes that would be announced in the near future. I am happy to advise you that in line with my recommendations the Department has just effectuated a number of program and procedural changes. Additional steps toward greater conservation will be taken a little later on.

I realize of course that conservation is not new, that conservation has been an objective of National and State agricultural programs for many years. However, it must be apparent that while we have succeeded in slowing up the processes of waste, the results are not large when they are measured against the tremendous job that must still be done. Our study of present conservation activities and results indicates that it is possible to obtain considerably more progress per conservation dollar expended.

That is why, in the Department of Agriculture, we are making every effort to focus our activities more firmly upon the problem of conservation - physical and human. This entails not only a better coordination and intensification of our efforts, and modifications and reorientation of certain programs, but also closer coordination and cooperation with conservation leadership in the States.

I am writing you regarding the steps that the Department is taking so that you and your associates may be informed of what we are doing to give concrete and effective form to the recommendations I made in November and to enlist your sympathetic cooperation

with us in this effort. Within the States, I fully realize that the Land-Grant Colleges, the State Extension Services, the Experiment Stations, the State conservation departments, the State departments of education, and other agencies can make great contributions to a broad program of conservation of agricultural resources, improved farm practice, and better farm living. In each State the services of the Federal Government, including the Soil Conservation Service, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, the Forest Service, and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics are seeking to coordinate their activities more closely with those of State agencies for greater conservation accomplishment.

Naturally, we turn to your institution and to yourself as the logical leadership in your State in stimulating unity of thinking about such a plan. The contributions of this Department to the plan are being outlined in detail to the State Land Use Planning Committee for your State, of which your State Director of Extension is Chairman and on which, as you know, the several agencies of this Department are represented. It would seem that this Committee should be able to render invaluable aid in building the foundation that will unite the efforts of all agencies concerned with conservation measures in your State regardless of whether or not they have representation on the Committee. We shall welcome at any time your suggestions as to what the Department might do further in the cause of conservation.

Sincerely,

Secretary.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming, Minnesota, South Dakota, California, Colorado, New Mexico, Michigan, Nebraska, Wisconsin.

No. 2-40

DISTRIBUTION: Immediate

WHEAT INSURANCE SPREADS OUT COST OF CROP FAILURE

With the sign-up for "all-risk" crop insurance on the 1940 spring wheat crop under way, _____, (Chairman or Member of the County AAA Committee) points out that the investment in the premium is not an added cost to a grower's farming operations, for in any event every grower must bear the cost of crop failure.

"The premium rate that each grower pays is calculated from actual losses that he has experienced during the base period, a 13- or 20-year period, depending on the area," explains _____. "In other words, the grower's premium payment represents his average annual cost of crop failure. Insurance won't reduce the amount of loss a grower may expect over a similar period of years, but it enables him to pay his cost of failure in annual installments. If a grower maintains his insurance over a representative number of years he will get back in crop-insurance indemnities just about as much as he pays in premiums.

"The main difference between the insured farmer and the farmer who doesn't insure his crop is this: The insured farmer will get his wheat back when he needs it most -- when his crop fails to produce 75 percent of the average. The uninsured farmer may have to pay all his cost of failure in the form of poor yields, in 1 or 2 years when his crop is badly damaged or wiped out."

17-40

(more)

"The insured grower," says _____, "may more easily weather 2, 3, or more bad years, since he is sure of at least 75 percent of his average production every year."

The closing date for applications for "all-risk" insurance on spring wheat for 1940 is February 29.

# # #

January 5, 1940.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In all States. No. 3-40
DISTRIBUTION: Immediate

AAA SHORTS

Under the grant-of-aid provisions of the 1939 AAA Farm Program, farmers in drought areas obtained a total of 4,275,895 pounds of seed, mostly clover and alfalfa, in place of conservation payments.

******

Up to late 1939, reciprocal trade agreements had benefited American farmers by an increase of exports over imports equivalent to crops of an estimated 5,000,000 acres.

******

World production of rayon fiber increased from the equivalent of 78,000 bales of cotton in 1920, to the equivalent of 4,583,000 bales in 1938.

******

Flue-cured tobacco growers had a surplus of 250 million pounds from their 1939 crop, and during the first 6 weeks of the marketing season prices dropped more than one-third below the 1938 average.

******

January 6, 1940.

26-40

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In Southern Region No. 4-40

For release following receipt of letter by
Land-Grant College President from Secretary Wallace.

STATE EXTENSION DIRECTOR
EXPLAINS CHANGES IN
FEDERAL FARM PROGRAMS

How recent changes in Federal farm programs should help _____ (State) farmers attain greater conservation of the soil, forest, and human resources of the State was explained here today by _____, Director of the State Agricultural Extension Service.

The changes, announced recently by Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace, and about which he wrote President _____ of the _____ (Institution). _____ (Date), call for more emphasis on conservation in all land-use programs of the Department of Agriculture and for closest coordination with State efforts along that line.

Of special interest to farmers in _____ are changes in the Agricultural Conservation program. The 1940 AAA Farm program is designed to give farmers in the Southern Region a greater opportunity for building up worn-out, eroded land, and for retiring that acreage not suitable for cultivation to timber and pasture.

The 1940 rates of payment for soil-building practices place added emphasis on such practices as the seeding of winter legumes, planting of forest trees, establishment and improvement of pastures, application of lime and phosphate, seeding of approved green-manure and cover crops, and construction and maintenance of terraces.

The 1940 AAA program will place added emphasis on contour furrowing, the construction of dams and reservoirs for the conservation of water supplies,

and the eradication of range-destroying plants and shrubs. (Note: Applies only to Texas and Oklahoma.)

Rates of payment for certain practices which are normally carried out on a large proportion of farms have been lowered, which will mean that to earn the same soil-building allowance as in 1939, farmers must either plant more of these crops or adopt additional soil-building practices. This is expected to increase conservation practices badly needed, while maintaining those practices normally carried out.

Under a new provision which allows any farm a special $30 payment for planting trees, many farmers in _____ are expected to improve their farms by planting more trees. Establishment of a $20 minimum payment which may be earned on any farm should further enable small farmers to carry out more soil-building practices.

The Farm Security Administration will hereafter, to encourage crop rotation and soil conservation, make no loans to farmers in its rehabilitation program when the farm plan provides for growing only one cash crop. Farm Security Administration supervisors will also give increased attention to soil conservation practices in drawing up management plans with borrowers, will help borrowers obtain longer-term, better-written leases, and wherever feasible, will require needy persons receiving Farm Security Administration grants to do conservation work on their farms.

The changes call for Soil Conservation Service technicians to give greater technical soil conservation assistance to Farm Security Administration supervisors, Agricultural Adjustment Administration Committeemen, and the like, to realine its work more rapidly so as to assist a still larger number of farmers through locally organized soil-conservation districts, and to cooperate further

(more)

with the Extension Service in establishing complete soil conservation demonstrations in different areas of the various districts.

The Forest Service will promote greater conservation in national forests and use the national forests to obtain better land use on adjacent lands.

In line with these changes, Director _____ said that the _____ Extension Service, including county agricultural and home demonstration agents over the State, would do everything possible to work with representatives of the various agencies to assemble, organize, and make available to rural people and the public generally the facts about the causes and effects of unwise use of the land and the measures needed to bring about good land use and conservation.

# # #

January 6, 1940.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

IN Northeast Region. No. 5-40.

For release following receipt of letter
by Land-Grant College President from
Secretary Wallace.

STATE EXTENSION DIRECTOR
EXPLAINS CHANGES IN
FEDERAL FARM PROGRAMS

How recent changes in Federal farm programs should help _____ (State) farmers attain greater conservation of the soil, forest, and human resources of the State was explained here today by _____, Director of the State Agricultural Extension Service.

The changes, announced recently by Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace, and about which he wrote President _____ of the _____ (Institution) _____ (Date), call for more emphasis on conservation in all land-use programs of the Department of Agriculture and for closest coordination with State efforts along that line

Of special interest to _____ (State), he pointed to changes in the agricultural conservation program, including more emphasis on soil-building practices which are not normally carried out in the State, a new $30 allowance per farm for planting forest trees, and establishment of a $20 minimum payment which may be earned on any farm.

A decrease was made in the rate of payment for seeding legumes. This change was made on the grounds that in much of the Northeast area legume seeding was already common, and the payment was less effective in increasing conservation than were payments for such practices as application of lime and phosphate, and pasture and forest improvement.

The $30 special allowance for planting trees will be of special interest in _____, and the $20 minimum soil-building allowance for each farm

will allow small farmers to carry out more soil-building practices. (Note: Tree allowance especially applicable to New York, Pennsylvania, and Southern New England.)

The Farm Security Administration will hereafter, to encourage crop rotation and soil conservation, make no loans to farmers in its rehabilitation program when the farm plan provides for growing only one cash crop. Farm Security Administration supervisors will also give increased attention to soil conservation practices in drawing up management plans with borrowers, will help borrowers obtain longer-term, better-written leases, and, wherever feasible, will require needy persons receiving Farm Security Administration grants to do conservation work on their farms.

The changes call for Soil Conservation Service technicians to give greater technical soil conservation assistance to Farm Security Administration supervisors, Agricultural Adjustment Administration Committeemen, and the like, to realine its work more rapidly so as to assist a still larger number of farmers through locally organized soil-conservation districts, and to cooperate further with the Extension Service in establishing complete soil conservation demonstrations in different areas of the various districts.

The Forest Service will promote greater conservation in national forests and use the national forests to obtain better land use on adjacent lands.

In line with these changes, Director _____ said that the _____ Extension Service, including county agricultural and home demonstration agents over the State, would do everything possible to work with representatives of the various agencies to assemble, organize, and make available to rural people and the public generally the facts about the causes and effects of unwise use of the land and the measures needed to bring about good land use and conservation.

January 6, 1940. # # #

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In North Central Region No. 6-40

For release following receipt of letter by
Land-Grant College President from Secretary Wallace.

STATE EXTENSION DIRECTOR
EXPLAINS CHANGES IN
FEDERAL FARM PROGRAMS

How recent changes in Federal farm programs should help _____ (State) farmers attain greater conservation of the soil, forest, and human resources of the State was explained here today by _____, Director of the State Agricultural Extension Service.

The changes, announced recently by Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace, and about which he wrote President _____ of the _____ (Institution) _____ (Date), call for more emphasis on conservation in all land-use programs of the Department of Agriculture and for closest coordination with State efforts along that line.

Of special interest to _____ (State) are changes in the agricultural conservation program. The rate of payment for seeding grasses and legumes such as alfalfa, sweetclover, red clover, and timothy has been decreased, which means that to earn the same soil-building payment as in 1939 many farmers must either seed more acreage to these crops or carry out supplementary soil-building practices, such as terracing, use of limestone, and contour farming.

The 1940 AAA Program provides for an increase of about 10 percent in soil-building allowances for individual farms in _____ (State), Director _____ explained. It further provides that at least $20 may be earned on any farm, which will allow small farmers to carry out more soil-building practices. In addition, a new special allowance of $30 is provided, under the 1940 AAA Program, which can be earned on any farm by planting forest trees and shrubs.

Grants of aid previously available in _____ counties in _____ will be offered on lime and superphosphate in _____ counties in the State in 1940. This will enable farmers to obtain fertilizer in place of a portion of their cash payments. (Note: This paragraph applicable only in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, and Wisconsin; State AAA office can furnish list of counties.)

The Farm Security Administration will hereafter, to encourage crop rotation and soil conservation, make no loans to farmers in its rehabilitation program when the farm plan provides for growing only one cash crop. Farm Security Administration supervisors will also give increased attention to soil conservation practices in drawing up management plans with borrowers, will help borrowers obtain longer-term, better-written leases, and wherever feasible, will require persons receiving Farm Security Administration grants to do conservation work on their farms.

The changes call for Soil Conservation Service technicians to give greater technical soil conservation assistance to Farm Security Administration supervisors, Agriculture Adjustment Administration Committeemen, and the like, to realize its work more rapidly so as to assist a still larger number of farmers through locally organized soil-conservation districts, and to cooperate further with the Extension Service in establishing complete soil conservation demonstrations in different areas of the various districts.

The Forest Service will promote greater conservation in national forests and use the national forests to obtain better land use on adjacent lands.

In line with these changes, Director _____ said that the _____ Extension Service, including county agricultural and home demonstration agents over the State, would do everything possible to work with representatives of the various agencies to assemble, organize, and make available to rural people and the public generally the facts about the causes and effects of unwise use of the land and the measures needed to bring about goodland use and conservation.

# # #

January 6, 1940.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In Western Region.

For release following receipt of letter by
Land-Grant College President from Secretary Wallace. No. 7-40

STATE EXTENSION DIRECTOR
EXPLAINS CHANGES IN
FEDERAL FARM PROGRAMS

How recent changes in Federal farm programs should help _____ farmers
(State)
attain greater conservation of the soil, forest, and human resources of the State was explained here today by _____, Director of the State Agricultural Extension Service.

The changes, announced recently by Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace, and about which he wrote President _____ of the _____,
(Institution)
_____, call for more emphasis on conservation in all land-use programs
(Date)
of the Department of Agriculture and for closest coordination with State efforts along that line.

Adjustments in rates of payments for soil-building practices under the AAA Farm Program have been made to place greater emphasis on forestry practices, erosion control practices such as terracing, strip-cropping, and listing, weed control, application of superphosphate, mulching, reseeding of pastures, deferred grazing of range land, and seeding permanent pasture mixtures.

An additional allowance of $30 per farm for planting forest trees and shrubs should encourage _____ farmers to plant more trees, and establishment of
(State)
a minimum $20 payment which may be earned on any farm will enable small farmers to carry out more soil-building practices, Director _____ explained.

Expansion of the grant-of-aid provisions of the AAA will encourage production of winter legume seed, particularly hairy vetch and Austrian winter peas, in

(More)

30-40

_____ (Washington, Oregon, and California), and enable farmers in _____ (State) _____ (State) (Washington and Oregon) to apply larger amounts of superphosphate for increasing stands of soil-conserving crops. The seed will be made available to farmers of the Southeast for growing much needed winter legumes.

The Farm Security Administration will hereafter, to encourage crop rotation and soil conservation, make no loans to farmers in its rehabilitation program when the farm plan provides for growing only one cash crop. Farm Security Administration supervisors will also give increased attention to soil conservation practices in drawing up management plans with borrowers, will help borrowers obtain longer-term, better-written leases, and wherever feasible, will require needy persons receiving Farm Security Administration grants to do conservation work on their farms.

The changes call for Soil Conservation Service technicians to give greater technical soil conservation assistance to Farm Security Administration supervisors, Agricultural Adjustment Administration Committeemen, and the like, to realine its work more rapidly so as to assist a still larger number of farmers through locally organized soil-conservation districts, and to cooperate further with the Extension Service in establishing complete soil conservation demonstrations in different areas of the various districts.

The Forest Service will promote greater conservation in national forests and use the national forests to obtain better land use on adjacent lands.

In line with these changes, Director _____ said that the _____ (State) Extension Service, including county agricultural and home demonstration agents over the State, would do everything possible to work with representatives of the various agencies to assemble, organize, and make available to rural people and the public generally the facts about the causes and effects of unwise use of the land and the measures needed to bring about good land use and conservation.

# # #

January 6, 1940.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

IN East Central Region No. 8-40.

For release following receipt of letter
by Land-Grant College President from
Secretary Wallace.

STATE EXTENSION DIRECTOR
EXPLAINS CHANGES IN
FEDERAL FARM PROGRAMS

How recent changes in Federal farm programs should help _____ (State) farmers attain greater conservation of the soil, forest, and human resources of the State was explained here today by _____, Director of the State Agricultural Extension Service.

The changes, announced recently by Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace, and about which he wrote President _____ of the _____ (Institution) _____ (Date), call for more emphasis on conservation in all land-use programs of the Department of Agriculture and for closest coordination with State efforts along that line.

Of special interestto _____ (State) are a number of changes in the Agricultural Conservation program.

Changes in the rates of credit for soil-building practices under the 1940 AAA Program will emphasize conservation through practices not normally carried out, including greater use of lime and phosphate, and winter cover crops, Director _____ pointed out.

Extension of grant-of-aid provisions will make lime and phosphate available to farmers on a larger scale in 1940. The cost of materials, including freight charges, will be deducted from conservation payments, making the soil-building materials available to farmers without cash outlay.

Special encouragement will be given to seeding more cover crops in the fall of 1940 that are especially adaptable to _____.
(State)

Winter legume seed grown under the grant-of-aid project in the Pacific Northwest will be available for farmers to plant in the fall of 1940. (Applicable only in North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky.)

Under a new provision of the AAA Program which allows any farm a special $30 payment for planting trees, many farmers in _____ are expected to
(State)
improve their farms by planting more trees and shrubs. Establishment of a $20 minimum payment which may be earned on any farm should further enable small farmers to carry out more soil-building practices.

The Farm Security Administration will hereafter, to encourage crop rotation and soil conservation, make no loans to farmers in its rehabilitation program when the farm plan provides for growing only one cash crop. Farm Security Administration supervisors will also give increased attention to soil conservation practices in drawing up management plans with borrowers, will help borrowers obtain longer-term, better-written leases, and wherever feasible, will require needy persons receiving Farm Security Administration grants to do conservation work on their farms.

The changes call for Soil Conservation Service technicians to give greater technical soil conservation assistance to Farm Security Administration supervisors, Agricultural Adjustment Administration Committeemen, and the like, to realine its work more rapidly so as to assist a still larger number of farmers through locally organized soil-conservation districts, and to cooperate further with the Extension Service in establishing complete soil conservation demonstration in different areas of the various districts.

(more)

The Forest Service will promote greater conservation in national forests and use the national forests to obtain better land use on adjacent lands.

In line with these changes, Director _____ said that the _____ Extension Service, including county agricultural and home demonstration agents over the State, would do everything possible to work with representatives of the various agencies to assemble, organize, and make available to rural people and the public generally the facts about the causes and effects of unwise use of the land and the measures needed to bring about good land use and conservation.

# # #

January 6, 1940.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

IN North Central Region, Kansas, Kentucky. No. 40-9
RELEASE: Immediate.

NOTE TO EDITOR: The County AAA Office will have data necessary for filling in the blanks in this release.

_____ BUSHELS
(Number)
OF CORN SEALED
IN _____
(County)

Farmers of _____ County have put _____ bushels of their 1939 corn crop under AAA loan since _____, when the first loan on
(Date)
1939 corn was taken out in the county, reports _____, Chairman (or Member) of the County AAA Committee.

The progress of the 1939-40 corn-loan program, now in full swing, indicates that the amount of 1939 corn which will go under loan in _____ County will (exceed, be less than, be about equal to) the amount sealed under the 1938-39 loan program. _____ County farmers sealed _____ bushels of 1938 corn.

Loans on 1939 corn will be available until March 31 at the rate of 57 cents per bushel. (Forty-three cents in the noncommercial area.) The loans will be due August 1, 1940. _____ pointed out that the 3-percent interest rate, which is 1-percent lower than the rate on 1938 corn, will mean a considerable saving to _____ farmers. Banks and other local lending agencies have handled about _____ percent of the loans made so far. The simplified method for taking out corn loans by which a farmer may sign his note and chattel mortgage, and obtain his insurance certificate in but one trip to the county office, has considerably speeded up the work of making loans, said _____.

(The following paragraph applies only in counties that have been equipped with moisture meters.) Because of the large volume of loans, the _____ County Agricultural Conservation office has been equipped with a Tag-Heppenstall moisture meter which has greatly hastened the work of testing and grading the samples of each borrower's corn taken by the inspectors.

The 1939 corn on which loans are now being made becomes part of the reserves in the Nation's Ever-Normal Granary. The corn loan makes it possible for farmers to hold part of their corn in years of large production, such as 1939, and have it available for feeding or marketing in years of poor crops, or when prices are higher.

# # #

January 9, 1940.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In Ill., Iowa, Ind., Mich., Minn., Mo., Nebr., Ohio, S. Dak., Wis.

No. 10-40

Note to Extension Editor: This story is being posted here today for the local press, and I am sending you a copy for any further use you can make of the material in it before or after your State delegates to the conference return home. We plan to send you shortly a Weekly News Service release summing up recommendations of the conference.

Lester A. Schlup

- - - - - -

Farmer representatives of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration and representatives of the State Extension Services of 10 North Central States opened a 3-day meeting in Washington, January 10, to discuss soil conservation under the AAA Farm Program.

Topics scheduled for discussion and committee reports are: Use of liming material and other plant food nutrients; pasture-improvement practices; forestry; mechanical and cultural erosion-control practices; farm-management practices; new soil-building practices; and range and dry land conservation practices.

Suggestions arising at the meeting will be developed in accordance with the experience of those administering the AAA programs.

As a result of the conference, soil-building practices best adapted to farming conditions in the various States are expected to be designated for emphasis in 1940. There will also be discussion of soil-building measures proposed for the 1941 Farm Program.

The meeting is a part of Secretary Wallace's recently-announced program for the Department of Agriculture of increased emphasis on soil conservation in activities of all agencies of the Department.

(More)

Those attending the meeting, by States, are:

Illinois.--Lee M. Gentry and John F. Bicket, Agricultural Adjustment Administration; J. B. Andrews and E. D. Walker, Extension Service.

Iowa.--O. D. Klein and Fred Roewe, Agricultural Adjustment Administration; R. K. Bliss and Lester Clapp, Extension Service.

Indiana.--L. M. Vogler and Clarence J. McCormick, Agricultural Adjustment Administration; V. D. Sexson and M. O. Pence, Extension Service.

Michigan.--Maurice A. Doan and Clarence Swanebeck, Agricultural Adjustment Administration; R. J. Baldwin, J. A. Porter and G. F. Wenner, Extension Service.

Minnesota.--Charles W. Stickney and Henry G. Bolstad, Agricultural Adjustment Administration; S. H. Rutford and Ralph Crim, Extension Service.

Missouri.--C. W. Sheppard and Charles D. Peterman, Agricultural Adjustment Administration; J. W. Burch and J. R. Paulling, Extension Service.

Nebraska.--Fred S. Wallace and Abner K. Chesten, Agricultural Adjustment Administration; J. P. Ross and D. L. Gross, Extension Service.

Ohio.--Elmer F. Kruse and Dale Williams, Agricultural Adjustment Administration; H. C. Ramsower, Guy Dowdy and Earl S. Jones, Extension Service.

South Dakota.--Alfred R. Barnes and William J. Van Zee, Agricultural Adjustment Administration; L. I. Thompson and U. J. Norgaard, Extension Service.

Wisconsin.--Harry O. Wells and Walter F. Katterhenry, Agricultural Adjustment Administration; W. W. Clark and C. J. Chapman, Extension Service.

# # #

January 10, 1940.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

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In31We

In Southern Region

No. 11-40

DISTRIBUTION: Immediate

(NOTE TO EXTENSION EDITORS: Your Extension Agronomist and State AAA Office can help you localize this story.)

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U.S. Department of Agriculture

_____ LOOKS
(Name)
TO INCREASE IN
SOIL CONSERVATION

_____, State Agricultural Extension Service agronomist, is
(Name)
of the opinion that farmers in _____ and throughout the South will
(State)
carry out a more effective soil conservation program this year than ever before.

_____ has just returned from Washington, D. C., where he
(Name)
attended a 3-day conference of southern Extension agronomists and Agricultural Adjustment Administration officials.

Discussions at the meeting centered on plans for assisting farmers in carrying out those practices which experiments and farmer experience indicate are most worth while from the standpoint of future returns. Also discussed was a method of achieving this objective by providing as a grant-of-aid, wherever necessary, the materials needed in carrying out approved soil-building practices under the 1940 AAA program.

Plans to aid in increasing the production and use of legume seed grown locally or within the region, also were discussed, _____ said.
(Name)

The extension agronomist hailed the 1940 Agricultural Conservation Program as "another progressive step in the fight to conserve our soil resources." The 1940 farm program places added emphasis on the conservation of soil, forestry, and human resources.

Rates of payments made to farmers for carrying out conservation practices under the AAA program have been revised, so as to encourage the use of desirable practices which normally are not carried out on a large number of farms.

In _____, maximum payment rates are the same as in 1939
(State)
on _____.
(List practices for which payment is same in your State)
However, the 1940 program provisions have reduced the rate of payment on

_____.
(List practices for which payment rate has been reduced in your State)

Under provisions of the 1940 program, small farms can earn a minimum payment of $20. In addition to the regular soil-building assistance, each farm has available an additional $30 for assistance in planting a specified acreage in forest trees.

_____ said that the soil-conserving and soil-building
(Name)
practices which are more generally needed on farms in this State include:

_____.
(List main practices for your State)

As an outgrowth of the Washington conference, the agronomist said, plans are under way to aid farmers in determining their individual needs for improving their land. County agents and other agricultural workers will help in this undertaking.

# # #

January 11, 1940.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

IN N. Dak., S. Dak., Mont., Nebr., Utah, Wash., Wyo., Wis., Idaho, Oreg., Calif., Colo., N. Mex., Minn., Mich.

No. 12-40.

RELEASE: Immediate.

Note to Editor: The County AAA Committee will have data necessary for filling in the blanks in this release.

WHEAT FARMERS HAVE NEW CREDIT SOURCE IN CROP INSURANCE

Wheat growers in _____ (County) who insure their crop with the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation are reminded by _____ (Name), Chairman of the County AAA Committee, that they may use their insurance contracts as security to obtain money to finance planting operations next spring.

"The grower who has assured himself of three-fourths of a normal crop by paying his premium for all-risk insurance, is a much better risk to creditors than the wheat farmer who has no assurance of any income," says _____. "This fact was given wide recognition in 1939 by banks and other lending agencies."

A farmer may assign his crop insurance contract as security for any loan, the amount of the current year's rental for the farm, or an annual installment due under a purchase, mortgage, or trust agreement in respect to the farm, says _____. This comparatively new source of credit becomes available to wheat growers at a time of year when they most need it - just before planting time when most wheat farms are producing no income.

Indemnities were paid to _____ (Number) growers in _____ (County) last year representing about _____ (Number) bushels. _____ says that a portion of

January 12, 1940. (more)

67-40

many of these indemnities was used by farmers to pay creditors who had lent them money to finance planting operations last spring.

February 29 has been set as the final date on which _____ (County) growers can apply for "all-risk" insurance on their 1940 spring wheat crop.

# # # #

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In North Central Region No. 13-40

DISTRIBUTION: Immediate

NOTE TO STATE EXTENSION EDITOR:
The parts that are adaptable to your State should be more fully developed following agreement on practices which will be stressed in your State.

AAA URGES ADAPTED SOIL PRACTICES ON _____ FARMS
(State)

Every _____ farmer will be encouraged to carry out the particular
(State)
soil conservation measures most needed on and best adapted to his own farm under the 1940 AAA Farm Program, according to _____, Chairman of the State AAA committee (or Director of the State Extension Service).

This was one of the recommendations of a group of North Central Region representatives, who met in Washington, D. C., last week to plan methods of enabling farmers to accomplish more conservation under the AAA Farm Program in both 1940 and 1941.

The group suggested that each State select soil conservation practices best adapted to its farms and that practices not customarily carried out on farms in the State be demonstrated to farmers on farms of AAA committeemen.

Practices which have been designated for emphasis in _____
(State)
in 1940 and 1941 are: (Note to State Extension Editor: A list of these practices may be obtained from the State AAA Office and the Extension Director's office, if the practices have been agreed upon).

New practices recommended for the 1941 program include construction of sod waterways in fields of intertilled crops and construction of dams to control gullies. Expansion of the AAA program for control of noxious weeds was termed desirable.

The group agreed that testing of soil on which it is proposed to apply limestone to promote growth of legumes should be encouraged.

It was recommended that the wood-lot improvement program be placed on a long-term instead of a 1-year basis and that consideration be given to placing greater emphasis upon improvement and maintenance of trees, as well as to planting trees in areas where planting is not the principal forestry need.

Consideration was given to means of improving the yield and quality of permanent pastures and to increasing the acreage of permanent pasture in parts of the North Central Region.

It was agreed that each farmer should be encouraged, with the help of his community committeemen, to use good farm-management principles to a greater extent in working out the farm plan for his farm, and that encouragement should be given to landlords and tenants to work out farm-management plans that will help offset the effects of short-term farm tenure.

For the range and dry-land area, the conference recommended some changes in credit for range-building practices on the basis of past experience and urged continued study of the methods of applying range-building practices.

Attending the Washington conference from _____ were (names of
(State)
representatives of the AAA and Extension Service can be obtained in each State).

# # #

January 13, 1940.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In ALL STATES No. 14-40

RELEASE: Immediate

AAA SHORTS

Farmers cooperating in AAA Farm Programs of the last 6 years have shifted about 30 million acres from soil-exhausting cash crops to soil-conserving crops.

* * * * *

The amount of cotton actually shipped out of the United States during the last 5 months of 1939 was more than 1 million bales larger than cotton exports during the same period in 1938.

* * * * *

An estimated 282 million acres of land in the United States have been badly damaged by erosion.

* * * * *

Farmers who participated in the AAA farm programs of 1936, 1937, and 1938 planted 122,750 acres of trees.

* * * * *

Up to January 1, 1940, more than 315,000 wheat growers had paid premiums insuring their 1940 crop with the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.

# # #

January 16, 1940.

87-40

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In Tex., La., Miss., Ala., Ga., Fla. No. 15-40

RELEASE: Immediate

Note: Extension Editors will want to see that county agents get copy of this release in case it is not released through them since farmers are asked to see the county agent about it.

SCIENTISTS DISCOVER WAY TO "GAS" SWEETPOTATO WEEVIL

Scientists of the United States Department of Agriculture have found a way to "gas" the sweetpotato weevil. The pest attacks the roots and vines and destroys all infested potatoes for market purposes. It generally goes through the winter in seed stock and in the plants left in the field. Either by planting back on the same plot, or by infected seed, the pests attack the new crop.

The sweetpotato weevil burrows deep within the sweetpotatoes held for seed stock and is difficult to reach with the ordinary fumigant.

By using methyl bromide, workers of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine in cooperation with the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Louisiana State Experiment Station found the sweetpotato weevil in seed stocks could be killed with this chemical. The chemical is extremely toxic to the pest in its various life stages--as eggs, pupae, larvae, and adults--regardless of how deep they were into the potato.

Methyl bromide is a gas at ordinary temperatures, says Mr. _____. It becomes a liquid under pressure. If the chemical is placed in the liquid form with the seed potatoes in a tight chamber, it returns to its gaseous form and kills the weevils.

The Bureau workers observed that less damage was done by the chemical to the seed, and that the chemical was more effective on the pests when the potatoes to be fumigated were heated to 70 to 75 degrees for 10 days to 2 weeks before the gas treatment, and held within that temperature range for 2 or 3 days after. The actual process of fumigation takes about 6 hours.

Mr. _____ suggests that farmers who plan to use the fumigant get in touch with the county agent. He can give pointers on preheating the potatoes and constructing an airtight fumigation chamber. The cost of treating may be reduced when two or more farmers build a fumigation chamber together.

# # #

January 16, 1940.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In Idaho, Mont., N.Dak., S.Dak., Oreg., Wash., Minn.

No. 16-40

DISTRIBUTION: Not before Feb. 1, 1940.

FEB. 29 LAST DAY FOR TAKING OUT CROP INSURANCE

NOTE TO EXTENSION EDITOR: Data necessary for filling in the blanks in this press release are available in the County AAA Office.

_____ County wheat growers are warned by _____,
(Name)
Chairman of the County AAA Committee, that there will be no extension of the dead line, February 29, 1940, for acceptance of completed applications for "all-risk" crop insurance on their 1940 spring wheat crop.

The dead line is final, and we have received instructions to accept no applications on spring wheat after close of business on the closing date, said _____. This means that eligible growers in this county have only _____ days to make application and pay the premium if they have
(Number)
not already done so.

To date more than _____ growers in _____ have filed paid-
(Number) (County)
up applications with the county committee, _____said. This compares with _____ received a year ago, when "all-risk" crop insurance for wheat
(Number)
was first offered to farmers. More than _____ percent of the growers who have applied have taken advantage of the new AAA "offset" provisions, under which the premium for the insurance can be paid by executing an advance against future payments to be earned under the Agricultural Conservation Program.

# # #

January 22, 1940.

113-40

[illegible] Naval [illegible], D.C. No. 16-40
[illegible], Tech. Mem.

DISTRIBUTION: Not before Feb. [illegible], 1940.

[illegible]

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[illegible] Library [illegible] Office.

[illegible]

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In All States No. 17-40

MACHINERY LEADING SAFETY
HAZARD IN FARMER'S WORK

Safety on the farm is largely home-made says _____ (Extension Engineer or _____ County Agent). One of the reasons there are so many accidents on the farm is that farm families are operating largely on their own responsibility. For city people at work or at home there are numerous safety precautions, and someone to enforce them. But the farmer to a great extent must be his own safety engineer and almost entirely his own disciplinarian."

Mr. _____ points to a statement on farm accidents made by S. H. McCrory, Assistant Chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering in the Federal Department of Agriculture. Mr. McCrory believes there will be more legal control of farm safety, especially of the ways in which electricity is used.

Among reasons why the farm is a fertile field for accidents Mr. McCrory found these: Much farm work is done by individuals at some distance from others so that an accident may be serious because help is not at hand. On the farm there are frequent changes in work and machinery used, which may mean unfamiliarity with equipment and less accuracy of movement. Under the pressure of summer work there often are long hours in the field and chores done in a hurry after dark - both conducive to accidents.

He found that in spite of improvements, farm machinery is a top hazard in farm work. The older hazard of animals, such as unruly bulls and kicking horses, is next. In Kansas last year, more than half the accidental farm deaths were caused by machinery and animals.

But in checking hundreds of accident records, he also found that most of them were caused by carelessness - by haste, by the use of makeshift repairs, by taking chances, by using machinery without guards or with guards removed.

"The suffering, the loss of time, and the actual cash cost of these accidents," says Mr. _____, shows the need for avoiding them. It has been shown time and time again that the well-ordered farm, with well-ordered activities, is good insurance against accidents."

# # #

January 22, 1940.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In W.Va., Ky., Tenn., Ind., Ill., Mo., Iowa, Ark., Okla., Kans., Nebr.

No. 18-40

BLACK WALNUTS COMBINE SOIL
CONSERVATION WITH CASH RETURN

One farm enterprise which combines soil protection from erosion with some return for the use of the land is the production of black walnuts, says _____.

Citing a report from the Soil Conservation Service, Mr. _____ stated that in many sections of the country where black-walnut trees grow, the local commercial supply of black-walnut kernels is insufficient to meet the demand of buyers.

The Soil Conservation Service is interested in the development of the infant black-walnut industry, because the trees will grow on eroding soil and afford protection from erosion. The trees also give farmers a cash income from land that is unprofitable for cultivation.

The most productive range of the black-walnut industry embraces most of West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, and lesser parts of Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Nebraska.

Aside from the protection which black-walnut trees supply to eroding land, it is not unusual, according to recent studies, for a black-walnut tree to supply more cash to the farm family in a single year than the owner could get for the tree as lumber.

# # #

January 24, 1940.

127-40

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In Florida, Georgia, South Carolina,
Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana

No. 19-40

SLASH PINE DOUBLE-CROP TREE, SAYS EXTENSION FORESTER

Thousands of acres of worn-out or unimproved parts of farms and cut-over lands in the State of _____ can be used to grow the dual-purpose slash pine, says _____, extension forester for the _____ _____College of Agriculture. These acres, profitless for other crops, are suitable for production of timber and naval stores from slash pine.

The extension forester quotes a recent publication of the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture, reporting that slash pine on average land at ages of 15 to 25 years produces wood for such uses as pulpwood, stave blocks, and fuel at the rate of one-half to one cord an acre annually. On good-quality land, well-stocked stands are growing at the rate of one to two cords an acre a year, or 300 to 600 board feet.

By proper methods of cutting, and protection from fire and grazing injury, slash-pine woodlands and forests can be kept continuously productive and perpetually renewed.

Slash pine, the Forest Service says, is one of the most profitable forest trees in the United States because of its rapid growth and its value in production of naval stores. A too-common practice in the past has been to work the trees when they are too young, or when they are under 9 inches in diameter.

Though many areas will reseed themselves and produce good stands of timber if protected from fire, _____ says that replanting is necessary in some cases.

Small 1-year-old seedlings can be dug up in openings or along the edges of old fields near seed trees, or can be grown in the nursery bed at home, or purchased for a nominal price from _____ under the Clarke-McNary law. Usually, nursery-grown trees are cheap and will give more satisfactory results.

Landowners desiring to purchase trees for planting this season should make applications early, _____ _____ adds.

Copies of the slash-pine publication, Farmers' Bulletin 1256, may be obtained for 10 cents each from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C.

# # #

January 24, 1940.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

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FEB 1 1940
U.S. Department of Agriculture

In All States

No. 20-40

DISTRIBUTION: Immediate

AAA SHORTS

The total value of all farm land and buildings increased about 5 billion dollars from 1933 to 1938.

* * * * *

In 1938 farmers participating in the AAA Farm Program improved nearly 10 million acres of pasture by reseeding.

* * * * *

The number of forced farm sales through foreclosure and other causes declined 70 percent from 1933 to 1939.

* * * * *

Forty-two percent of the farmers in the United States lease or rent all the land they cultivate.

* * * * *

January 25, 1940.

131-40

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In Western, Southern, North Central,
and Northeast Regions.

No. 21-40

DISTRIBUTION: Immediate

NOTE TO EXTENSION EDITOR: The information and figures necessary for filling in the blanks in this release will be available in the County AAA Offices.

SOIL CONSERVATION
INCREASES ON FARMS
IN _____ COUNTY

That _____ County farmers are increasing conservation practices on their farms was shown in 1939 when those participating in the AAA Farm Program completed soil-building practices on _____ acres, points out _____, Chairman (or Member) of the County AAA Committee. This is about a ____ percent increase over the total of soil-building practices carried out in the county during the previous year.

In reaching the 1939 total, farmers carried out soil-building practices encouraged by the AAA for maintaining the fertility of the soil, said _____. These practices included: (List acreages for principal soil-building practices carried out in your county under the 1939 AAA Farm Program. This statement may have to be changed for practices that are not measured in terms of acres.)

The conservation program of the AAA is expected to be even more effective this year, said _____. Credit for such practices as (list several practices widely used for which credit is lower in 1940) has been lowered to emphasize other conservation practices needed more on _____ County farms. To earn their full soil-building allowances in 1940, farmers will increase their use of customary farm practices, or carry out additional practices they do not ordinarily carry out on

(More)

the farm. _____ pointed out that on _____ County
(Name)
farms the practices which will be stressed under the 1940 AAA Program are: (List practices which will receive emphasis in your county in 1940. In counties where grants-of-aid are available, it would be well to point out practices encouraged by the grants-of-aid program.)

A minimum payment of $20 which may be earned on any farm this year will enable operators of small farms to carry out more soil-building practices, said _____.

# # #

January 26, 1940.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In East Central Region.

No. 22-40

DISTRIBUTION: Immediate

_____ COUNTY
FARMERS INCREASE
CONSERVATION WORK

Note to Editor: The County AAA Offices will have the data and information necessary for filling in the blanks in this release.

That _____County farmers are using more conservation measures on their farms is shown by the increase in soil-building practices carried out by those who participated in the 1939 AAA Farm Program, points out _____, Chairman (or Member) of the County AAA Committee.

Important soil-building practices and the extent to which farmers in _____County used them in 1939 were: (List acreages of principal seedings, tons of lime and phosphate applied, and other important practices).

The conservation program of the AAA is expected to be even more effective this year, observes _____. Credit for such practices as _____(List several practices widely used for which credit is lower in 1940) has been lowered to emphasize other important practices needed to promote conservation. To earn their full soil-building allowances in 1940, farmers will increase their use of customary practices, or carry out additional practices not ordinarily used on their farms. Practices which will be stressed in _____County under the 1940 AAA Program are: _____ (Name practices which will receive emphasis in your county this year; practices encouraged by the grants-of-aid program might also be emphasized.)

146-40 (more)

A minimum payment of $20 which may be earned on any farm will make it possible for operators of small farms to carry out more soil-building practices.

Local AAA committeemen are now helping farmers to fill out individual farm plans for 1940. The purpose of the farm plan is to aid each participating farmer in arranging his farming operations so that he may cooperate fully with the 1940 Program.

# # #

January 29, 1940.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In All States. No. 23-40

NEW FILM STRIP SHOWS METHODS
OF CONTROLLING TRICHINOSIS

Trichinosis is a disease which easily can be prevented, says _____ in pointing out that practical methods of controlling the disease are shown in a film strip just released by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Hogs are the principal hosts of trichinae, the parasites which cause the disease in man, Mr. _____ says. Although the great majority of hogs are free from the parasite, estimates of the Federal Bureau of Animal Industry indicate that between 1 and 2 percent of the hogs marketed in this country carry the parasite.

Trichinosis is commonly caused by eating raw or imperfectly cooked pork containing the live parasites. The simplest means of prevention is to cook all pork thoroughly. Processing of certain kinds of pork products that are commonly eaten without further cooking is provided for by Federal meat inspection and is also a dependable safeguard. The disease is not contagious.

Hog-lot sanitation aids materially in reducing the number of swine infected, Mr. _____ says. Other means of prevention are the removal of pork scraps from raw garbage, or the cooking of garbage.

The film-strip, which contains 31 pictures showing how the disease is contracted and how it can be controlled, was prepared cooperatively by the Bureau of Animal Industry and the Extension Service.

# # #

January 29, 1940.

151-40

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In Southern Region No. 24-40

AAA ANNOUNCES
RULE ON UNFAIR
RENT PRACTICES

Landlords and farm operators who have been charging "bonus rent" in an effort to share unjustly in the agricultural conservation payments of their tenants and sharecroppers, will have their own Government payments withheld, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration has announced.

_____, State Administrative Officer of the AAA (or Chairman of the State Agricultural Conservation Committee), called attention to provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act forbidding such a practice.

"The AAA has learned of instances where landlords have endeavored to share unfairly in agricultural conservation payments," _____ said. "In some cases they have charged a cash payment for the same acreage on which a share rent is charged. In other cases they have charged a payment for each acre of land not planted to cotton. Other arrangements call for a cash rental for all nondepleting crops on the farm."

The State AAA Officer (or State AAA Chairman) said the Secretary of Agriculture has determined that such bonus rents, which have not been regular rental procedure, are an attempt to deprive tenants and sharecroppers of payments to which they are entitled.

"Under the Agricultural Conservation Program," _____ continued, "payments may be withheld or, where already made, recovered from any landlord or operator employing such devices."

# # #

January 30, 1940.

155-40

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In Oreg., Wash., Ohio, Mich., Pa., N.Y.,
N.J., Mass., Conn., R.I., N.H., Maine,
N.C., Ga.

No. 25-40

3 NEW BLUEBERRY VARIETIES READY FOR TRIAL PLANTINGS

Three new commercial varieties of blueberries have been released to nurserymen and are available for trial plantings this year, says _____ horticulturist at the _____ State Experiment Station who suggests that blueberry growers may want to make small experimental plantings to compare the yield and quality and the season of bearing of the new varieties with the blueberries they are now growing.

The three new varieties were originated by the late Dr. F. V. Coville of the Federal Bureau of Plant Industry, and have been named Atlantic, Pemberton, and Burlington. According to the announcement sent to _____ by the Federal Bureau the new varieties have been tested in New Jersey, but only to a limited extent elsewhere. The U. S. Department of Agriculture has no plants for distribution, but growers may buy small lots from nurserymen who are propagating the planting stock released by the bureau.

The bureau's memorandum says that all three varieties are resistant to cracking in rainy seasons. The Atlantic and Pemberton bear very large fruit. The Pemberton has the most vigorous bush of any variety now in a planting near Pemberton, N. J., where it has been tested. The Burlington also has an exceptionally vigorous fine bush. The fruit of the Burlington does not tear in picking, and has the characteristics of an excellent keeping and shipping sort. It is somewhat later than both Jersey and Rubel, being, in fact, the latest variety now grown at Whitesbog, N. J. Atlantic and Pemberton ripen about the same time as Jersey and Rubel.

The berries of all three hold up well in size at the later pickings--better than Jersey and Rubel. All three have been hardy in New Jersey, and in a limited test at Amherst, Mass., the Pemberton has been hardy.

February 6, 1940. # # #

179-40

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture
In Cotton States. No. 26-40

TREATING COTTON SEED HELPS PREVENT DISEASE

Treating cottonseed to prevent bacterial and fungus diseases that attack the young seedlings is paying good returns to farmers in the Carolinas and should prove equally worth while in _____, in the opinion of _____, cotton specialist of the _____ Extension Service.

Every cotton farmer in _____ knows how important it is to get a good stand from the first planting and then get the plants off to a good start, he added. This is one of the first battles in the war against the boll weevil.

The best form of insurance against poor stands is seed treatment with either an organic mercury dust sold under the trade name 2 percent Ceresan or a mercuric phosphate dust sold as New Improved Ceresan. The former has been used more generally, but the latter seems to give equally good results and costs less. Other dusts are now on the market for treating cottonseed, but they have not been tested sufficiently to be recommended.

Directions for constructing a home-made seed treater from an old barrel or oil drum are contained in a leaflet soon to be issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture on cottonseed treatment. _____ quotes the authors of the leaflet, Dr. R. J. Haskell and Dr. H. D. Barker of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, as reporting that seed treatment in North Carolina last year in some instances increased the market value of the cotton as much as $10 an acre.

Cost of treating cottonseed ranges from 12 to 25 cents an acre, allowing 5 pecks of seed per acre. In some communities ginners perform this service at a small fee for their customers. In others, enterprising individuals have mounted treating machines on trucks and travel from farm to farm, treating seed at a fixed price.

Complete directions for treating seed can be obtained from county agents. Certain precautions for protecting the hands and eyes are explained in the leaflet. Copies of the leaflet, when it is available, may be obtained free from county agents or by writing to the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In Western and East Central Regions. No. 27-40

DISTRIBUTION: Immediate

EARLY PLANTING
OF TREES URGED
BY _____
(Name)

Farmers who intend to take advantage of the $30 allowance for tree planting under the 1940 Agricultural Conservation Program are urged by _____, Chairman (or member) of the County AAA Committee to make arrangements for obtaining planting stock as soon as possible.

_____ points out that _____ is the final date for carrying out
(Date)
soil-building practices under the 1940 program. Consequently, _____ County farmers will find it necessary to do the bulk of their tree planting this spring in order to take full advantage of the special tree-planting allowance. The $30 allowance is available to any farmer who participates in the 1940 AAA Farm Program and is in addition to any other allowance the farmer may earn on his farm this year.

Under the 1939 AAA Farm Program, _____ County farmers planted approximately _____ acres of trees. The special allowance will make it possible for them to make a considerable increase in tree planting this year, said _____.

# # #

NOTE TO STATE EXTENSION EDITOR: It is suggested that this release be further localized by obtaining further information on payments from the State AAA Committee, and about best dates for tree planting and kinds of trees adaptable in your State from the State forestry specialist. It might also be well to include a statement on the need for trees and their adaptability in your State. The County AAA Committee will have other data necessary for filling in the blanks in this release.

February 6, 1940.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In Tobacco States. No. 28-40

TESTS SHOW BLUE MOLD TREATMENT WON'T
DO DOUBLE DUTY AGAINST FLEA BEETLES

Tobacco growers have hoped that the chemical treatments advised for control of blue mold in seedbeds would also be effective in killing tobacco flea beetles. Benzene and paradichlorobenzene do kill some flea beetles, as tobacco growers have observed, says _____, tobacco specialist at _____ (Institution), but the blue-mold treatments do not kill enough of the flea beetles to warrant growers in suspending the use of derris or cube dusts or cryolite or arsenical dusts for flea-beetle control.

_____ bases this advice on experiments last season in North Carolina and South Carolina in which State and Federal entomologists cooperated in tests of the effect of blue-mold treatments as a flea-beetle control. Norman Allen and W. A. Shands, of the United States Department of Agriculture, have reported that with light cloth covers for the seedbeds, the effect of the chemicals was slight. In beds covered with heavy close-woven sheeting, more beetles were killed or made sluggish, but not nearly enough for the control needed.

_____ says there is need to poison the flea beetles both before and after the time when blue-mold treatments are required. Flea beetles are likely to be most destructive in seedbeds while the tobacco plants are very small and before blue mold appears. Also, Clemence Levin of the United States Department of Agriculture has recently emphasized the importance of flea-beetle control in tobacco plant beds after the main supply of plants has been drawn and transplanted to the field. This is after blue-mold treatments have ended, but Levin finds that tobacco

(More)

beds remain a serious source of flea beetles that come out and fly to the fields and injure the plants two weeks to a month after they are set out. Seedbeds, he finds, should be kept dusted with derris and cube powder or cryolite dusts until field replacements have been made, and should then be cleaned up and surplus plants destroyed to check this flight of flea beetles from the beds to the field.

# # #

February 6, 1940

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In Northeast Region.

DISTRIBUTION: Immediate No. 29-40

NOTE TO EXTENSION EDITOR: It is suggested that this release be further localized by obtaining additional information on payments from the State AAA Committee, and about best dates for tree planting and kinds of trees adaptable in your county from the State forestry specialist.

(County) TREE
PLANTING SPURRED
BY AAA ALLOWANCE

Indications are that a large number of _____ County farmers
(Name)
intend to take advantage of the $30 allowance for tree planting under the 1940 Agricultural Conservation Program, and they are advised by _____, Chairman (or Member) of the County AAA Committee to make arrangements for obtaining planting stock as soon as possible.

_____ points out that _____is the final date for carrying out soil-building practices under the 1940 Agricultural Conservation Program.
(Date)
Consequently, _____ County farmers will find it necessary to do the bulk of their tree planting this spring in order to take full advantage of the special tree-planting allowance. The $30 allowance is available to any farmer who participates in the 1940 farm program and is in addition to any other allowance he may earn this year.

The special allowance will make it possible for farmers to make a considerable increase in tree planting over the number they planted under the 1939 program, said _____.

# # #

February 8, 1940.

194-40

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Montana,
Nevada, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota,
Minnesota, Nebraska.

No. 30-40

DISTRIBUTION: Immediate

NOTE TO EDITOR: This story follows the recent weekly release which announced that there would be no extension of the February 29 dead line for taking out crop insurance on spring wheat. The County AAA Committee will have data for filling in the blanks in the last paragraph.

WHEAT GROWERS
HAVE _____ DAYS
TO INSURE CROP

_____ County wheat growers are reminded by _____ Chairman (or Member) of the County AAA Committee, that they have just _____ days left to apply for "all risk" crop insurance on their 1940 spring wheat crop. The dead line, after which no applications may be accepted, is Thursday, February 29. Applications for crop insurance may be filed in the County AAA Office, and growers who plan to insure their spring wheat crop are urged not to wait until the final day.

With the work of taking applications on spring wheat nearing completion, more than _____ (Number) farmers in _____ County have completed paid-up applications. _____ (Name) estimates that growers in the county have the assurance of income from approximately _____ (Number) bushels of wheat under these contracts, regardless of the outcome of the crop.

# # #

February 8, 1940.

195-40

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In all States.

DISTRIBUTION: Immediate No. 31-40

AAA SHORTS

Stored in the Nation's Ever-Normal Granary are about 300 million bushels of wheat over and above domestic requirements.

* * *

One out of four farmers who insured their 1939 wheat production under the Federal "all risk" insurance program has received an indemnity to make up for unavoidable crop loss.

* * *

Wheat is an important source of cash income to more than one million farmers in the United States.

* * *

Trade between the United States and Canada outranks that of any other two countries in the world.

# # #

February 8, 1940.

196-40

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi.

No. 32-40

SAYS COVER CAN MAKE
BORDER STRIPS USEFUL

Pointing out that bare strips of land lying between cultivated fields and woods are often the worst eroded places on the farm, _____ recommends a dual cover on these border strips for erosion control.

By establishing grasses or legumes next to the croplands and shrubs or hedges next to the woods, says _____, the farmer can check soil washing on these areas, use them as turnrows, and develop an excellent habitat for wildlife, all at one and the same time. Where the border strips run crosswise to the direction of cultivation, they can also be used for the safe disposal of water from the furrow ends.

These facts are brought out in a new Department of Agriculture leaflet (No. 188) entitled "Protecting Field Borders." This publication gives simple directions for treating border strips, for maintaining the cover once it has been established, and for preventing the encroachment of woods.

Copies of the leaflet may be obtained without charge from the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

# # #

February 12, 1940.

200-40

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In All States No. 33-40

TERMS MISUSE OF WOOD
COSTLY TO HOMEOWNERS

Skimping in nails, joists, framing, foundations, or in providing ventilation for wood used in house construction are some of the abuses which generally invite higher upkeep and more expense in the long run, says _____, extension forester of the _____ College of Agriculture.

Care is needed in house construction from the foundation to the roof, says _____ in discussing a new bulletin of the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, "Use and Abuse of Wood in House Construction." An important essential is to build so that the wood stays dry and is ventilated to eliminate dampness which can result in decay.

Poorly constructed foundations, for example, may result in settling walls, or dampness in basements, and in some localities in termite attacks. Plaster cracks resulting from unbalanced shrinkage may be reduced to a certain extent by avoiding one-edge material in or under a wall or by using the same amount all the way around. Spacing rafters differently from the ceiling joists often results in inadequate tying together of roof, walls, and frame. Unless framing of openings is properly done, doors and windows may stick. Wood sheathing put on diagonally gives greater stiffness to a house than sheathing that is put on horizontally.

Skimping on nails can weaken the entire house. In a well-built house, the Forest Service recommends three 20-penny nails through each joist to the header and two 8-penny nails through each side of the studding.

_____ says that the new bulletin on use and abuse of wood is listed as Miscellaneous Publication No. 358, and may be obtained for 10 cents from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C.

February 12, 1940.

201-40

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In Ala., Fla., Ga., La., Miss., S. C. No. 34-40

NEW CHEWING CANE
RESISTANT TO MOSAIC

Good news for cane chewers came from County Agent _____ today in the announcement of a new variety of cane especially adapted for chewing. The new variety is also resistant to mosaic, a virus disease that almost ruined the cane sirup industry of the South a few years ago.

Yellow leaves and stunted growth of sugarcane in the chewing-cane patches of the South stand out in contrast to the deep green color of cane grown for sirup on the same farms, says_____. The reason is that growers have not had a variety that was resistant to mosaic and also soft enough and sweet enough for chewing. If generally adopted the new variety will remove the constant source of mosaic infection which has been present in patches of chewing cane.

The new variety is designated "C.P.31/511" and was developed by the Bureau of Plant Industry. For the last 5 years it has been under test at the U. S. Sugar Plant Field Laboratory near Cairo, Georgia. The stalks are straight and are green to light red in color when shaded and bright red when exposed to the sunlight while growing. It is a large-barreled cane measuring 1¼ inches in diameter, and the weight of the stalk is about 2¼ pounds. The variety yields sirup of excellent flavor, but because of the dark reddish color it is not recommended for sirup production.

The Bureau of Plant Industry has a limited supply of seed cane which will be distributed in the near future to county agents and State Experiment Stations for increase. Growers who wish to obtain a few stalks for trial plantings should make application to County Agent _____.

_____ suggests that farmers who wish to try a few stalks of the new cane, plant it at least 100 yards from the old patch of chewing cane, as the new variety while highly resistant is not entirely immune to mosaic.

# # #

February 14, 1940

217-40

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

DISTRIBUTION: To all States EXCEPT Nebraska, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio.

No. 35-40

IMPORTANT NOTE TO EDITORS: This is the feature story to accompany the mats of Wickard and Hill about which we wrote you last week. These mats should be in the State AAA office by this time, and you will undoubtedly want to consult with the AAA office on distribution of this material.

- - - - -

Two dirt farmers, with a combined experience of 54 years of farm operation and leadership, are now in the No. 2 and No. 3 posts of the Nation's Department of Agriculture.

Claude R. Wickard, newly appointed Under Secretary of Agriculture, has farmed a general grain and livestock farm near Camden, Ind., for nearly a quarter of a century. Grover B. Hill, who was named Assistant Secretary of Agriculture in December, has been a Texas rancher and farmer since 1911. Both men have been associated with administrative work of the AAA Farm Program in recent years.

The new Under Secretary first became connected with the Agricultural Adjustment Administration in 1933 and in 1936 he was made director of the North Central Division of the AAA. As director of the division, which includes the Corn Belt States, Mr. Wickard stressed farmer-administration of the AAA. Mr. Wickard, now 47, has operated the same Indiana farm which was farmed by his father and grandfather. He graduated from Purdue University in 1915 and in 1927 was named a Master Farmer of Indiana in recognition of his work as a farm leader and the improved farming practices which he followed.

Mr. Hill, 51, was named a field representative of the AAA in 1934, after serving on a committee which drafted the AAA Range Program. Since 1936 he has been in charge of the range program for the Southern Region of the AAA. During the drought of 1934, he directed the regional cattle-buying program in New Mexico, Texas, and Oklahoma. He studied at the University of Texas from 1909 to 1911, after which he went into ranching and farming near Amarillo.

# # #

February 16, 1940.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

DISTRIBUTION: To all North Central States (Nebraska, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio.)

No. 36-40

IMPORTANT NOTE TO EDITORS: This is the feature story to accompany the mats of Wickard and Schooler about which we wrote you last week. These mats should be in the State AAA office by this time, and you will undoubtedly want to consult with the AAA office on distribution of this material.

- - - - -

A real dirt farmer from the Corn Belt is now No. 2 man in the Nation's agricultural councils. Claude R. Wickard, recently appointed Under Secretary of Agriculture, brings to that post nearly a quarter of a century of experience as a general grain and livestock farmer in Carroll County, Ind.

Mr. Wickard's successor as director of the North Central Division of AAA -- Harry N. Schooler, is also familiar with farming from firsthand experience. Mr. Schooler is a South Dakota rancher-farmer who has been assistant director of the North Central Division since the Spring of 1937.

Since 1933, Mr. Wickard has devoted his practical farm experience to the administrative work of the AAA Farm Program. Since November 1936, he has been director of AAA's North Central Division, which includes most of the corn-hog Midwest.

On his farm near Camden, Ind., Mr. Wickard pioneered in the use of soil-conserving farm practices. In recognition of his work as a farm leader and the improved methods of farm operation which he practiced, he was named a Master Farmer of Indiana in 1927. He graduated from Purdue University in 1915.

As director of the North Central Division, he stressed administration of the Farm Program by elected farmer-committeemen.

Mr. Schooler homesteaded a ranch in South Dakota at the age of 21, served in the World War, later completed his course at South Dakota State College, and in 1923 returned to ranching and general farming. Like Mr. Wickard, he has been associated with administration of the AAA Program since 1933.

# # #

February 16, 1940.

230-40

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WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

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In Iowa, Mo., Ill., Ind., Ohio, Ky., Tenn., Miss., La., Ark. 37-40

RELEASE: Immediate.

WRONG TYPE TWINE
LIKELY TO CAUSE
LOWER WOOL GRADE

Reports coming to the _____ State Extension Service from wool
(State)
dealers say that an increasing proportion of fleeces has been coming to market tied with sisal and rough jute twines. These reports point out that all fleeces tied with such twine must be classed into the lower grades at prices that often are several cents a pound below the prices for the same qualities of wool tied with the right kind of twine.

_____ of the _____ Extension Service
(Name) (State)
says the right kind of twine for tying fleeces is paper twine. He says that sisal or binder twine and heavy jute twine are excellent for many purposes, but are not suited for tying shorn fleeces. They may shed loose fibers into the wool. If not discovered and removed, these fibers go through the manufacturing processes and appear as defects in the finished products. In colored fabrics they are particularly troublesome because, being of vegetable origin, they do not take dyes to the same degree as does wool.

Removal of the objectionable fibers by hand and mending the cloth by interweaving new yarn are necessary. These are costly operations of which the grower bears a share through a discount on his fleeces.

Paper twine, Mr. _____ says, can be taken from the fleece intact, but if pieces are left in the wool they disintegrate in scouring and are removed in the manufacturing processes, and it isn't hard to get paper twine. It comes in balls, hanks, and tubes, in single and four-ply sizes. The single-ply averages about 300 feet to the pound. The four-ply averages about 340 feet to the pound. Hanks usually are made up of 250 ends and cut in 8½-foot lengths. The twine in balls and tubes is in continuous pieces which are cut into 8½-foot lengths for tying fleeces.

February 20, 1940. # # # 240-40

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In Texas, N. Mex., Ariz., Okla. 38-40

RELEASE: Immediate.

WRONG TYPE TWINE LIKELY TO CAUSE LOWER WOOL GRADE

Reports coming to the _____ State Extension Service
(State)
from wool dealers say that an increasing proportion of fleeces has been coming to market tied with sisal and rough jute twines. These reports point out that all fleeces tied with such twine must be classed into the lower grades at prices that often are several cents a pound below the prices for the same qualities of wool tied with the right kind of twine.

_____ of the _____ Extension Service says
(Name) (State)
the right kind of twine for tying fleeces is paper twine. He says that the use of sisal and heavy jute twines for tying fleeces almost entirely disappeared a few years ago, but that now some increase in the use of these twines is reported in the area around Dallas and Fort Worth, in the eastern seaboard of Texas, and in other areas of the Southwest. In west Texas, wool growers generally use paper twine. Paper twine can usually be taken from the fleece intact, but if pieces are left in the wool they disintegrate in scouring and are lost in the manufacturing processes.

Loose-fibered twines, such as sisal or binder twine or rough jute twines, should never be used for tying wool, Mr. _____ says. Strands or fibers of these twines often become intermingled with the wool. If not discovered and removed, they go through the manufacturing processes and appear as defects in the finished product. These imperfections are a source of loss to the entire industry.

# # #

February 20, 1940

241-40

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In Va., N.C., S.C., Ga.,
Fla.,Ala.,Miss.,La.,Tex.

No. 39-40

SMALL TREES LIKE SMALL POTATOES,
SAYS _____ EXTENSION FORESTER

Small trees, like small potatoes, barely pay their way, says _____, extension forester of the _____ College of Agriculture. Basing his statement on recent investigations of pulpwood cutting in second-growth pine stands, _____ reports that the cutting of thrifty small trees proves undesirable and uneconomical.

_____ explains that, according to the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, pulpwood cutting should be confined to low-grade material including limby, crooked, or defective trees, suppressed trees, and others removed as thinnings, the upper portions of sawlog-size trees cut in logging operations, and worked out turpentine trees. The investigations disclosed that selective timber management of second-growth shortleaf and loblolly pine is definitely profitable.

It was found that the cut, when limited to trees financially mature because of size, poor condition, or low capacity for growth, improves the quality of the remaining stand. Furthermore, by shifting growth from trees of poor form to better trees, it assures an increased volume and an improved quality of future yields.

According to the Forest Service, _____ continues, improvement cuttings for pulpwood, which removed defective, crooked, and limby pines unsuitable for saw timber, have netted about 80 cents per unit of 144 cubic feet. Trees containing at least two sticks of pulpwood have been cut at a profit, but small trees do not pay, he says. The greatest returns for pulpwood have been obtained from 9- to 11-inch trees with pulpwood cut in thinning dense young stands netting $1.20 per unit.

# # #

February 23, 1940.

264-40

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In all States No. 40-40

USE CERTIFIED SEED TO AVOID RING ROT DISEASE OF POTATOES

A devastating new disease of potatoes called bacterial ring rot, which in some fields has caused complete loss of the crop, is threatening to spread to every potato field in _____ reports _____ plant disease specialist at _____.

Although there is no evidence that the disease lives in the soil from year to year, it is extremely infectious and is readily spread by knives used in cutting seed potatoes. The only protection against it is to keep it off the farm, and the way to do this is to use only certified seed.

Plant disease specialists in all the important potato States are pooling their efforts to learn more about this new disease, and _____ has just received from Dr. R. J. Haskell, extension plant pathologist of the U. S. Department of Agriculture a summary of findings and recommendations of the group.

Bacterial ring rot is spread by shipping seed potatoes from one locality to another. This is why it is so important for farmers to plant only seed that is free of the disease. It has been reported locally from at least 26 States.

How to Detect Ring Rot

As the name implies, ring rot usually causes a yellowish ring in the potato. This discoloration begins at the stem and works all the way to the bud end. In the early stages the disease cannot be detected in the potato without cutting it. Later, however, other diseases often set in, and the whole tuber breaks down with soft rots.

In the field the symptoms of bacterial ring rot usually appear late in the growing season, just before digging time. The leaves droop and feel soft and thin. The plant seems to be drying up from lack of water. Often only one stem of a plant seems to be affected.

For the farmer who buys seed stock each year the best plan is to plant only certified seed, _____ said.

# # #

February 26, 1940.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In Northeast Division, North Central Division, Maryland, Virginia, Arkansas, West Va., N.Y., Pa.

No. 41-40

NITROGEN FOR APPLE TREES
SHOULD BE APPLIED EARLY

Most apple orchard soils respond to applications of nitrogen, and much research has been directed at finding the best time to apply this plant food, says _____, extension horticulturist at _____.

Recent studies conducted by Drs. John R. Magness and L. P. Batjer of the Federal Bureau of Plant Industry show that best results come when a supply of ready-to-use nitrogen is built up in the tree early in the spring, _____ _____ explains. This can be done by adding nitrogen as soon as frost is out of the ground in the spring or by adding it just before harvest in the fall.

The experiments indicate that 25-year-old trees with average yields of 600 pounds of fruit required approximately 1½ pounds of actual available nitrogen each year to keep them in good growing condition and produce the crop. Of this about 0.6 pounds is returned to the soil in fallen leaves and blossoms. (A pound of actual nitrogen is contained in about 6 pounds of nitrate of soda or 5 pounds of sulphate of ammonia.)

The heaviest demand for nitrogen comes in spring and early summer when the trees are setting and developing fruit, _____ points out. However, the tree cannot be expected to get all the nitrogen it needs from the soil in this period of urgent need. Instead, it must draw upon reserves of nitrogen stored in the tree, particularly in the roots.

Nitrogen applied not more than a month before the crop ripens is not likely to injure the quality or color of the fruit, the experiments indicate. When the time of harvest of a variety permits, the ideal time for the main feeding of nitrogen is from just before harvest to the end of the growing season.

In regions where winters are severe this advantage has to be balanced against the danger of increased winter injury to the vigorous growth that results from applications of nitrogen late in the season. Also, nitrogen is readily soluble and some of it will be lost by leaching if more is added than the tree can use before growth stops.

Early spring applications of nitrogen also require an exact knowledge of the tree's requirements. Too much nitrogen in summer will prevent satisfactory coloring of the fruit and may cause a heavy "drop" of fruit before maturity.

The experiments also suggest that where a tree or orchard is set in the habit of alternate bearing it may be practical to fertilize liberally in the "off" year and very little in the bearing year.

# # #

February 26, 1940.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

RELEASE: IMMEDIATE. EXCLUSIVE TO STATE EXTENSION EDITORS In Ala., Ark., Maine, Vt., N.H., Mass., Conn., R.I., N.Y., N.J., Pa., Md., Va., N.C., Ky., Tenn., Miss., Ohio, W.Va., Ind., Mich., Ill., Wis., Minn., Iowa, Mo., Nebr., Kans., Okla., Tex.

No. 42-40

HIGH QUALITY HAY
BEST FOR MARKET
OR FARM FEEDING

Farmers can't take quality for granted when they market their hay crops, and it isn't a good plan to take quality for granted even when hay is fed on the farm where it is grown, says _____ of the _____ State
(Name) (State)
Extension Service.

Mr. _____ points out that present market prices make it much more profitable to take the better grades of hay to market than to offer hay of the lower grades or qualities. He says that one of the most economical ways to increase the feed supply on farms is to improve the quality of the hay produced, that on most farms material savings in the cost of producing livestock and livestock products can result from feeding more high-quality hay and less grain per animal unit.

Quality in hay really means feed value. The factors which affect quality include the maturity or ripeness, the percentage of leaves, and the color. They also include consideration of foreign material, such as weeds mixed with the hay, the soundness or condition, the size and pliability of the stems, and even the "aroma."

"From the standpoint of the chemist who analyzes hay samples," says Mr. _____, "quality in hay refers mainly to its protein, carbohydrates,

mineral, and vitamin content. From the feeder's standpoint, the extent to which these nutritive elements are present is represented by the quality factors, such as maturity, leafiness, and green color, that can be judged by examining the hay."

Farmers and agricultural workers in many areas are rather generally agreed that the supply of roughage should be increased and the quality improved. Mr. _____ says that farmers who want to improve the quality of their hay crops may be interested in a new Miscellaneous Bulletin No. 363, released by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, entitled "Hay Quality - Relation to Production and Feed Value." The authors are E. O. Pollock and W. H. Hosterman of the U. S. Agricultural Marketing Service.

# # #

February 27, 1940

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WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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United States Department of Agriculture

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IN N.D., S.Dak., Nebr., Kans., Minn., Iowa,
Mo., Wis., Mich., Ill., Ind., Ohio, Ky.

No. 43-40

CRIBBED CORN STUDIES SHOW VALUE OF GOOD COVER AND VENTILATION

Further proof of the value of ventilation in keeping cribbed ear corn low in moisture, and the need for a tight roof to protect it from rain and winter snow, is being found in cooperative studies by several State agricultural experiment stations and the U. S. Department of Agriculture, says _____. Corn in cribs without good ventilation and cover may show damage this spring from winter snows and rains, even though the corn was drier than usual when cribbed last fall.

The studies--mostly in Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, and Minnesota--show that the best way to get adequate ventilation is with narrow cribs. Ear corn in a crib 6 feet wide dries more rapidly than corn in an 8-foot crib, which in turn dries more rapidly than corn in a 10-foot crib. This, says _____, explains why corn stored in a driveway between two cribs may not dry fast enough to avoid serious damage when warm weather comes. Maximum crib widths recommended for safe storage of ear corn vary from about 12 feet in the southwestern corn belt to 6 feet or less in the northern and eastern corn States.

Although some storage studies had been made in years past, more definite information on good practices was needed after the Agricultural Adjustment Act provided for corn loans. In recent years, also, early corn picking with machines and the growing of hybrid varieties maturing later than varieties customarily grown, have added to the excess moisture problem. More than 500 cribs have been studied and sampled.

Studies which began in the fall of 1937 show that corn often is cribbed in the northern corn belt with a moisture content much higher than 20 percent. In the colder areas most of the drying takes place in the spring, although some drying may occur in the fall, if the weather is warm. Corn not only does not dry much in the winter, but may even take up some moisture.

The amount of moisture that may be removed from an ear of corn shows the need for ventilation in cribs, says _____. He points out that reducing the kernel moisture in a bushel of ear corn from 20 to 13 percent, removes nearly 9 pounds of water, one-half of which is in the cobs. For 1,000 bushels of ear corn this means about $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons or more than 1,000 gallons of water. Tests in Iowa and Illinois show that ears fully exposed to the air and under a roof dry 5 to 10 times as fast as ear corn in an 8-foot crib.

Tight siding to a point below the level of the corn after it settles, helps to keep out blowing snow and rain. Experiments with crib ventilators, both horizontal and vertical, indicate they are not so effective as once believed. What types are most effective is one of the points still being studied.

# # #

February 28, 1940.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In East Central Region. No. 44-40

DISTRIBUTION: Immediate

AAA APPLICATIONS
MUST BE SIGNED
BEFORE MARCH 30

NOTE TO EXTENSION EDITOR:
County AAA Committees will have the data necessary for filling in the blanks of this release. It is suggested that the county committees also list some of the practices farmers followed in earning their 1939 conservation payment.

_____ County farmers who have not filed applications
(Name)
for payments under the 1939 Agricultural Conservation Program and are eligible for payment should execute applications immediately, advises _____, chairman of the County AAA Committee. These applications must be filed in the county office on or before March 30, 1940, the closing date for filing 1939 applications.

Approximately _____ 1939 applications remain unsigned, according
(Number)
to _____. The county office has forwarded applications to the State AAA office from _____percent of the farmers in the county who are eligible for payments. Checks have been received here on _____ percent of the applications forwarded from the county offices.

# # #

March 1, 1940.

301-40

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

IN Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Kansas. No. 45-40

JANUARY COLD GIVES STOCKMEN
CHANCE TO CURB SCREWWORMS

As a result of the cold weather in January, stockmen in _____ (State), may now prevent a heavy loss to livestock from screwworms during May and June by promptly treating the infested injuries of all animals, says _____, extension entomologist at _____. During March, no worms should be allowed to develop in wounds for more than 3 days. Wounds should be treated and the grubs killed before they drop to the ground.

Field observations and laboratory studies at Uvalde, Tex., show that in that locality practically all of the screwworms entering the soil from animals infested during December were killed by the continued cold weather of January. Only a few flies developed and laid eggs in February, according to the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Although infestation was general in south Texas during December, there were fewer flies at the end of February than have ever before been recorded. Conditions in _____ (State) are similar. Some flies will develop in March from the infestations of early January, and a few will develop from later infestations, but stockmen now have the best chance they have ever had for a season of comparative freedom from screwworm injury, says _____.

(More)

334-40

If the screwworms now developing in animals are treated so that all worms are killed before they are 3 days old, the screwworm fly will be so reduced in numbers that injuries from marking, branding, shear cuts, birth and other causes occurring in the spring and early summer are not likely to become infested. Each female fly present in March is replaced by an average of 160 female flies in May and June. This means, says _____, that each mild case of worms neglected in March is likely to cause 160 bad cases during May and June. Early March cases are likely to be neglected because they do little damage to the animals early in the year. But it is from these early, and not serious cases that worms develop a big population of flies in May and June; so that the slightest wounds on livestock become infested with so many screwworms that many animals die within a few days. Such conditions also lead to a rapid spread of the pest.

Now, when the brush is bare of leaves and it is easy to find the animals, ranchmen are urged to search out every infested animal; to treat the wounds with benzol to kill the worms; and to use pine-tar oil to repel flies or diphenylamine to protect the wounds against other screwworms.

_____ recommends that every effort be made during March to kill all worms before they are 3 days old and that all ranch surgery be completed before April 30, if feasible. This is also the advice of the Federal Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine.

The present indications are that there will also be a high population of the winter blowflies which may produce wool maggots in sheep and goats, says _____. Should March and April be cool, wet sheep with long wool would be subject to such infestations. Early shearing is recommended to prevent this loss, and all shear cuts and other wounds should be dressed with pine-tar oil to repel flies or with diphenylamine to protect wounds against blowfly maggots.

March 6, 1940.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In Southern, Western, and Northeast Regions. No. 46-40

DISTRIBUTION: Immediate

NOTE TO EXTENSION EDITOR: County AAA Committees will have the data necessary for filling in the blanks of this release. It is suggested that the county committees also list some of the practices farmers followed in earning their 1939 conservation payments.

AAA APPLICATIONS
MUST BE SIGNED
BEFORE _____
(Date)

_____ County farmers who have not filed applications for payment under the 1939 Agricultural Conservation Program (and 1939 Range Conservation Program in States where the range program was in effect in 1939) and are eligible for payment should execute applications immediately, advises _____, Chairman (or Member) of the County AAA Committee. These applications must be filed in the county office on or before _____
(Name)
(Final date for filing applications for _____, the closing date for filing 1939 conservation or range payments, or both)
1939 applications.

Approximately _____ 1939 applications remain unsigned, according to _____. The county office has forwarded applications to the State AAA Office from _____ percent of the farmers in the county who were eligible for payments. Checks have been received here on _____ percent of the applications forwarded from the county offices.
(Number)

# # #

NOTE: Following are the closing dates for filing applications:

Applications for 1939 Agricultural Conservation payments: States in Western and Northeast Regions--March 31, 1940; States in Southern Region--Arkansas, March 31; Florida, April 1; Georgia and Oklahoma, April 30; Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Texas, May 31.

Applications for 1939 Range Conservation payments: States in Western Region, March 31; Oklahoma, April 30; Texas, May 31.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

IN East Central Region. No. 47-40

DISTRIBUTION: Immediate

FARM PLAN GIVES
AAA INFORMATION
ON 1940 PROGRAM

_____ County farmers who participate in the 1940 AAA Farm Program have until April 15 to draw up with a local AAA committeeman individual Farm Plans which apply the program to their farms, says _____ Chairman (or Member) of the County AAA Committee.

In working out each Farm Plan, farm operations will be outlined to bring the greatest benefits to the farmer through his participation in the farm program, said _____. The farmer will get first-hand information about soil-building practices needed on the farm and how he may be eligible for the maximum assistance under the farm program.

The Farm Plan, a copy of which each farmer will receive when he talks with his committeeman, also contains valuable information regarding classification of crops, maximum payments, soil-building practice credits, and similar data.

Any farm operator who does not have the opportunity within the next few weeks to work out a Farm Plan should notify his local committeeman or the County AAA Office that he wishes to do so. In order to qualify for payment under the 1940 AAA Farm Program, the Farm Plan must be filed in the county office on or before April 15, 1940.

# # #

March 7, 1940.

336-40

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In East Central Region. No. 48-40

DISTRIBUTION: Immediate

AAA ANNOUNCES
COMPLETE RATE
OF PAY SCHEDULE

A complete schedule of the rates of pay which farmers may earn by participating in the 1940 Agricultural Conservation Program, was announced this week by _____, Chairman of the County AAA committee. With this information, farmers will be able to determine approximately the total payment which may be earned on each farm by complying with the 1940 provisions of the AAA Farm Program.

The 1940 payments, which will average about the same as in 1939, will be made to farmers who plant within their acreage allotments and carry out approved soil-building practices.

Farmers who plant within their acreage allotments for corn (in commercial corn areas), wheat, and cotton can earn combined conservation and parity payments of 15 cents per bushel on the normal yield of the corn acreage allotments, 19 cents per bushel on the normal yield of the wheat acreage allotments, and 3.15 cents per pound on the normal yield of the cotton acreage allotments.

Farmers who receive special allotments for other crops and are in full compliance with the program may earn payments on the normal yields of their acreage allotments at the following rates:

Tobacco:	
Flue-cured	1.0 cents per pound
Burley	1.0 cents per pound
Fire-cured and dark air cured	1.2 cents per pound
Peanuts	12.5 cents per 100 pounds
Potatoes	3.0 cents per bushel
Commercial vegetables	$1.50 per acre

Payments may also be earned for carrying out approved soil-building practices.

Farm operators desiring additional information about the 1940 farm program can write or call at the Agricultural Conservation Association Office at _____. Every farmer who has not signified his intention to participate in the 1940 program must do so by _____ to be eligible for payments.

In order to be eligible for payment under the 1940 farm program, it will be necessary for each producer to execute a farm plan not later than April 15.

# # #

March 7, 1940.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In North Central Region

No. 50-40

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(NOTE TO EDITOR: County AAA Office will have the data necessary for filling in the blanks in this release.)

DISTRIBUTION: Immediate

(Number) FARMERS GIVE INTENTIONS OF AAA PARTICIPATION

More than _____ farmers of _____ County have already
(Number)
indicated they expect to participate in the 1940 AAA Farm Program, reports _____, Chairman (or Member) of the County AAA Committee. The signers represent _____ percent of the farmers of the county.

A farmer has until May 1 to express his intention of participating in the 1940 program by making out and signing a "Farm Plan" for his farm.

With the recent announcement of parity payment rates on special crops, a _____ County farmer can now determine the amount he may earn for compliance with the 1940 program. Complete participation in the program will make it possible for a farmer to earn:

1. A payment of 15 cents per bushel on the normal yield of his corn acreage allotment. This payment is divided into a conservation payment of 10 cents per bushel and a parity payment of 5 cents per bushel.
2. A payment of 19 cents per bushel on the normal yield of his wheat allotment. This is divided into a conservation payment of 9 cents a bushel and a parity payment of 10 cents per bushel.
3. Approximately $1.10 per acre on the acreage available for general crops, which includes such crops as oats, rye, and barley.

(more)

4. Special payments for carrying out soil-building practices such as spreading limestone, planting trees, and seeding alfalfa.
5. Corn and wheat loans as authorized by the AAA.
6. Eligibility for full advantages of the Federal Crop Insurance program.

_____ urges farmers who expect to participate in the 1940 program to complete and sign "farm plans" soon, since no conservation payments or corn parity payments will be made on any farm for which a "farm plan" is not completed by May 1. Every farmer intending to participate in the 1940 program should see his local AAA committeeman at once, if he has not already done so.

Last year, _____ farmers, operating _____ percent of the
(Number)
cropland of _____County, participated in the 1939 program. Indications are that the 1940 sign-up in the county will (exceed, be about the same as, be less than) that of a year ago.

(Note: Material on the method of conducting the sign-up, or on percentage of sign-up by townships may be inserted in this story.)

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March 11, 1940.